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Dated: December 8, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING  
GROUP 2881**

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-019100US

Client Ref. No.: 219800526US1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

KENJI OBARA, et al.

Application No.: 09/743,560

Filed: January 9, 2001

For: SAMPLE OBSERVATION  
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 4021

Examiner: Anthony G. Quash

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2881

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 2881**

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Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 27, 2003 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.